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10/814,888	03/30/2004	Cathleen Siok-Syuan Chua	CCH-001	7574

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EXAMINER

VANTERPOOL, LESTER L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3727

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/814,888

Applicant(s)

CHUA, CATHLEEN SIOK-SYUAN

Examiner

Lester L. Vanterpool

Art Unit

3727

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date March 30, 2004.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 – 6, 8 – 10 & 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bailey (U.S. Patent Number 6817033). Bailey discloses the pouch portion (50) having an opening (See Figures 1 & 2), and wherein the pouch portion (50) has the left side (See Figures 1 & 2) and the right side (See Figures 1 & 2);

the back portion (12) (See Figures 1 & 2) that extends upward from the pouch portion (50), the back portion (12) having the left side (See Figures 1 & 2) that extends upward from the left side (See Figures 1 & 2) of the pouch portion (50), the back portion (12) having the right side (See Figures 1 & 2) that extends upward from the right side of the pouch portion (50) (See Figures 1 & 2);

the first arm extension portion (80) (See Figures 1 & 2) that has the first side, the second side and the third side (See Figures 1 & 2) the first side extending to the left from the location A on the left side of the pouch portion (50) (See Figures 1 & 2), the second side extending to the right from the location B on the left side of the back portion (12); and

the second arm extension portion (82) (See Figures 1 & 2) that has the first side, the second side and the third side, the first side extending to the left from the location C on the left side of the pouch portion (50), the second side extending to the right from the location D on the right side of the back portion (12) (See Figures 1 & 2).

Regarding claim 2, Bailey further discloses the opening (See Figures 1 & 2) is defined in part by the rim (See Figures 1 & 2) of the pouch (50), the rim (See Figures 1 & 2) extending substantially in the lateral dimension (See Figures 1 & 2), wherein the location A on the left side of the pouch (50) is disposed at least two inches below the rim (See Figures 1 & 2), and wherein the location C on the right side of the pouch is disposed at least two inches below the rim (See Figures 1 & 2).

Regarding claim 3, Bailey further discloses the third side (See Figures 1 & 2) of the first arm extension (80) extends from the location A on the left side of the pouch portion (50) upward the location B on the left side of the back portion (12) (See Figures 1 & 2), and wherein the third side (See Figures 1 & 2) of the first arm extension (80) is at least eight inches long (See Figures 1 & 2), and

wherein the third side (See Figures 1 & 2) of the second arm extension (82) extends from the location C on the right side of the pouch portion (50) to the location D on the right side of the back portion (12), and wherein the third side (See Figures 1 & 2) of the second arm extension (82) is at least eight inches long. See Figures 1 & 2.

Regarding claim 4, Bailey further discloses the baby blanket (See Figures 1, 2 & 4) is laying flat with the opening (See Figures 1 & 2) in the pouch portion (50) collapsed, such that the first arm extension (80) is laying flat (See Figures 1 & 2) and extending to the left from the pouch portion (50) (See Figures 1 & 2), and such that the second arm extension (82) laying flat (See Figures 1 & 2) and extending to the right from the pouch portion (50). See Figures 1 & 2.

Regarding claim 5, Bailey further discloses the back portion (12) and the pouch portion (50) are formed from the single piece of fabric. See Figures 1 & 2.

Regarding claim 6, Bailey further discloses the back portion (12), the first arm extension portion (80) and the second arm extension portion (82) are formed from the single piece of fabric. See Figure 1 & 2.

Regarding claim 8, Bailey further discloses the back portion (12) extending upward and terminating in the hood portion (110) (See Figures 1 & 2).

Examiner notes applicant is evoking 35 U.S.C 112, 6th paragraph in claim 9, by reciting: "means for" constricting the opening.

Regarding claim 9, Bailey further discloses means (70) to constrict the opening (See Figure 1).

Examiner notes applicant is evoking 35 U.S.C. 112, 6th paragraph in claim 10, by reciting: "means for" adjusting the depth of the pouch portion.

Regarding claim 10, Bailey further discloses the means (28 & 30) to adjust the dept of the pouch portion (50) (column 3, lines 55 – 62) (See Figures 2 & 3).

Regarding claim 16, Bailey further discloses the back portion (12) extends upward from the pouch portion (50) the distance of at least six inches. (See Figures 1 & 2).

3. Claims 1 – 7 & 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gatten (U.S. Patent Publication Number 2004 / 0019969 A1). Gatten discloses the pouch portion (110) having the opening (See Figure 2A), and wherein the pouch portion (110) has the left side and the right side (See Figure 2A & 2B); back portion (100) that extends upward from the pouch portion (110) (See Figure 1), the back portion (100) having the left side that extends upward from the left side of the pouch portion (110) (See Figure 1), the back portion (100) having the right side that extends upward from the right side of the pouch portion (110) (See Figure 1);

first arm extension portion (130) (See Figure 1) that has the first side (131), second side (132) and the third side (See Figure 1), the first side (131) extending to the left from the location A on the left side of the pouch portion (110) (See Figure 1), the

second side (132) extending to the right from the location B on the left side of the back portion (100) (See Figure 1); and

second arm extension portion (135) that has first side (136), second side (137) and the third side (See Figure 1), the first side (136) extending to the left from the location C on the left side of the pouch portion (100), the second side (137) extending to the right from the location D on the right side of the back portion (100).

Regarding claim 2, Gatten further discloses the opening (See Figure 1) is defined in part by rim (116) of the pouch (110), the rim (116) extending substantially lateral dimension (See Figure 1), wherein the location A on the left side of the pouch portion (110) is disposed at least two inches below the rim (116) (See Figure 1), and wherein the location on the right side of the pouch portion (110) is disposed at least two inches below the rim (116). See Figure 1.

Regarding claim 3, Gatten further discloses the third side (See Figure 1) of the first arm extension (130) extends from the location A on the left side of the pouch portion (110) upward the location B on the left side of the back portion (100) (See Figure 1), and wherein the third side (See Figure 1) of the first arm (130) extension is at least eight inches long (See Figure 1), and

wherein the third side (See Figure 1) of the second arm extension (135) extends from the location C on the right side of the pouch portion (110) to the location D on the

right side of the back portion (100), and wherein the third side (See Figure 1) of the second arm extension (135) is at least eight inches long. See Figure 1.

Regarding claim 4, Gatten further discloses the baby blanket (See Figures 1, 2A & 3) is laying flat with the opening (See Figure 1) in the pouch portion (110) collapsed, such that the first arm extension (130) is laying flat (See Figure 1) and extending to the left from the pouch portion (110) (See Figure 1), and such that the second arm extension (135) laying flat (See Figure 1) and extending to the right from the pouch portion (110). See Figure 1.

Regarding claim 5, Gatten further discloses the back portion (100) and the pouch portion (110) are formed from the single piece of fabric (paragraph 0034). See Figure 1.

Regarding claim 6, Gatten further discloses the back portion (100), the first arm extension portion (130) and the second arm extension portion (135) are formed from the single piece of fabric (paragraph 0031). See Figure 1.

Regarding claim 7, Gatten further discloses the first arm extension (130) tapers as it extends to the left (paragraph 0030) (See Figure 1), and wherein the second arm extension (135) tapers as extends to the right (paragraph 0030). See Figure 1.

Regarding claim 13, Gatten further discloses the baby blanket laying flat (See Figure 1) with the opening (116) in the pouch portion (110) collapsed, and wherein the pouch portion (110) has the substantially semicircular bottom side (See Figures 1, 2A, 2B, 3 & 5 – 8) that extends from the first side of the pouch portion (110) to the second side of the pouch portion (110). See Figures 1, 2A, 2B, 3 & 5 – 8.

Regarding claim 16, Gatten further discloses the back portion (100) extends upward from the pouch portion (110) the distance of least six inches (paragraph 0028). See Figure 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 8 & 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatten (U.S. Publication Number 2004 / 0019969 A1) in view of Norman (U.S. Patent Publication Number (U.S. 2003 / 0178452)). Gatten discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Gatten discloses the back portion (100) extending upward. See Figure 1.

However, Gatten does not disclose the hood portion, the back portion extending upward and terminating in the hood portion.

Norman teaches the hood portion (44) (See Figure 11), the back portion (32) extending up ward and terminating in the hood portion (44) (paragraph 0031) (See Figure 11) for the purpose of providing infant head warmth and additional infant protection.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the hood portion, the back portion extending up ward and terminating in the hood portion as taught by Norman with the baby blanket of Gatten in order to enhance infant head warmth and provide additional infant protection.

Regarding claim 15, Norman further discloses the pocket (54) disposed on the back portion (32) (paragraph 0031) (See Figures 2, 4, 5, & 8) for the purpose of providing the user with easy access to infant formula and or personal items.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the pocket disposed on the back portion as taught by Norman with the baby blanket of Gatten in order to enhance the user with easier access to personal items.

Examiner notes applicant is evoking 35 U.S.C. 112, 6th paragraph in claim 10, by reciting: "means for" adjusting the depth of the pouch portion.

6. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatten (U.S. Patent Publication Number 2004 / 0019969 A1) in view of Bailey (U.S. Patent Number 6817033). Gatten discloses the invention substantially as claimed.

However, Gatten does not disclose the means to adjust the depth of the pouch portion.

Bailey teaches the means (28 & 30) to adjust the depth of the pouch portion (50) (column 3, lines 55 – 62) (See Figures 2 & 3) for the purpose of accommodating various infants as the infant grow.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the means to adjust the depth of the pouch portion as taught by Bailey with the baby blanket of Gatten in order to accommodate a variety of infants at various infant growth stages.

7. Examiner notes applicant is evoking 35 U.S.C. 112, 6th paragraph in claim 9, by reciting: "means for" constricting the opening.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatten (U.S. Publication Number 2004 / 0019969 A1) in view of Bouma (U.S. Patent Number 4597121). Gatten discloses the invention substantially as claimed.

However, Gatten does not disclose the means to constrict the opening.

Bouma teaches the means (16) (See Figures 1, 3D, 5 & 6) to constrict the opening (See Figures 1, 3D, 5 & 6) for the purpose of providing safety security and prevent excess infant movement.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make means to constrict the opening as taught by Bouma with the baby blanket of Gatten in order to enhance infant safety security and prevent excess infant movement.

8. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatten (U.S. Patent Publication Number 2004 / 0019969 A1) in view of Bouma (U.S. Patent Number 4597121) and Bailey (U.S. Patent Number 6817033). Gatten discloses the invention substantially as claimed.

However, Gatten does not disclose the opening of the pouch portion having an adjustable circumference, and wherein the pouch portion has an adjustable depth.

Bouma teaches the opening of the pouch portion having an adjustable circumference (See Figures 1, 3D, 5 & 6) for the purpose of providing safety security and prevent excess infant movement.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the pouch portion have an adjustable circumference as taught by Bouma with the baby blanket of Gatten in order to enhance infant safety security and prevent excess infant movement.

Furthermore, Gatten does not disclose the pouch portion having an adjustable dept.

Bailey teaches the pouch portion (50) having an adjustable dept (column 3, lines 55 – 62) (See Figures 2 & 3) for the purpose of accommodating various infants as the infant grow.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the pouch portion have an adjustable depth as taught by Bailey with the baby blanket of Gatten in order to accommodate a variety of infants at various infant growth stages.

9. Claims 11 & 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bailey (U.S. Patent Number 6817033) in view of Ruefer (U.S. Patent Number 5722094). Bailey discloses the invention substantially as claimed.

However, Bailey does not disclose the means including the first portion and the second portion, wherein the first portion is detachably connectable to the second portion, the first portion extending from an inside bottom surface of the pouch portion.

Ruefer teaches the means (46 & 48) include the first portion (48) and the second portion (46), wherein the first portion (48) is detachably connectable to the second portion (46), the first portion (48) extending from an inside bottom surface of the pouch portion (See Figures 1, 2, 5 & 6).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the means including the first portion and the second portion, wherein the first portion is detachably connectable to the second portion, the first portion extending from an inside bottom surface of the pouch portion as taught by

Ruefer with the baby blanket of Bailey in order to accommodate various infants at different growth stages.

Regarding claim 12, Ruefer further discloses the second portion (46) connected to one of the back portion and the pouch portion (See Figures 1, 2, 5 & 6), and wherein the depth of the baby blanket can be reduced by connecting the first portion (48) to the second portion (46) (See Figures 1, 2, 5 & 6) for the purpose of containing and accommodating various infant at various lengths.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the second portion connected to one of the back portion and the pouch portion, and wherein the depth of the baby blanket can be reduced by connecting the first portion to the second portion as taught by Ruefer with the baby blanket of Bailey in order to accommodate various infants at different growth stages.

10. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatten (U.S. Patent Publication Number 2004 / 0019969 A1) in view of Norman (U.S. Patent Publication Number (2003 / 0178452 A1) and Maine (U.S. Patent Number 3996620). Gatten discloses the pouch portion (110) that contains at least the portion of the legs of the baby (See Figure 2A & 2B);

the first arm extension portion (130) that extends from the pouch portion (110) (See Figure 1), wraps around at least the portion of the baby carrier (See Figure 2C), the second arm extension portion (135) that extends from the pouch portion (110) (See

Figure 1), the first arm extension portion (130) and the second arm extension portion (135) crosses over on another. See Figures 2C & 2D.

However, Gatten does not disclose the front-worn baby carrier. Norman teaches the front-worn baby carrier (See Figures 2, 3, 8, 10 & 11) for the purpose of providing eye contact supervision while transporting infant with hands free capabilities.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make front-worn baby carrier as taught by Norman with the baby blanket of Gatten in order to enhance eye contact supervision while transporting infant with hands free capabilities.

Moreover, Gatten does not disclose the first arm extension portion and the second arm extension portion passes between the person; wherein the first arm extension portion and the second arm extension portion crossing over one another at the location between the person and wherein the first and second arm extension portions are detachably connected on the other side of the with respect to the person.

Maine teaches the first arm extension portion (12c) and the second arm extension portion (14c) passes between the person (See Figure 3 & 4); wherein the first arm extension portion (12c) and the second arm extension portion (14c) crossing over one another at the location between the person (See Figures 3 & 4) and wherein the first (12c) and second (14c) arm extension portions are detachably connected on the other side of the with respect to the person (See Figures 3 – 5) for the purpose of providing durable and reliable security.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the first arm extension portion and the second arm extension portion passes between the person; wherein the first arm extension portion and the second arm extension portion crossing over one another at the location between the person and wherein the first and second arm extension portions are detachably connected on the other side of the with respect to the person as taught by Maine with the baby blanket of Gatten in order to enhance and provide repeatable reliable and durable security to accommodate various user sizes.

11. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bailey (U.S. Patent Number 6817033) in view of Bouma (U.S. Patent Number 4597121). Bailey discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Bailey discloses the baby blanket (See Figures 1 & 2) has the back portion (12) (See Figures 1 & 2) that extends upward from the pouch portion (50) and that terminates in the hood (110) (See Figures 1 & 2), the hood (110) facing inward (See Figures 1, 2 & 4) toward the person when the hood (110) is covering the head of the baby (See Figure 4), and wherein the pouch portion (50) has an opening into which the legs of the baby extend (See Figures 1 & 2).

However, Bailey does not disclose the means to adjustably constrict the opening around the baby.

Bouma teaches means (16) to adjustably constrict the opening around the baby (See Figure 1, 3D, 5 & 6) for the purpose of providing safety security and prevent excess infant movement.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make means to constrict the opening as taught by Bouma with the baby blanket of Gatten in order to enhance infant safety security and prevent excess infant movement.

12. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatten (U.S. Patent Publication Number 2004 / 0019969 A1) in view of Norman (U.S. Patent Publication Number 2003 / 0178452 A1) and Bouma (U.S. Patent Number 4597121). Gatten discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Gatten discloses the baby blanket (See Figure 1) having the back portion (100) that extends upward from the pouch portion (110).

However, Gatten does not disclose the baby blanket has the back portion that extends upward from the pouch portion and that terminates in a hood, the hood facing inward toward the person when the hood is covering the head of the baby, and wherein the pouch portion has an opening into which the legs of the baby extend.

Norman teaches the back portion (32) that extends upward from the pouch portion and that terminates in the hood (44) (See Figure 11), the hood (44) facing inward toward the person (See Figure 11) when the hood (44) is covering the head of the baby (paragraph 0031) (See Figure 11), and wherein the pouch portion (See Figure 5) has an opening (28) into which the legs of the baby extend (0028) (See Figures 2 – 8) for the purpose of providing adequate infant shelter protection.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the back portion that extends upward from the pouch portion and that terminates in a hood, the hood facing inward toward the person when the hood is covering the head of the baby, and wherein the pouch portion has an opening into which the legs of the baby extend as taught by Norman with the baby blanket of Gatten in order to enhance adequate infant shelter protection.

Moreover, Gatten and Norman do not disclose means to adjustably constrict the opening around the baby.

Bouma teaches means (16) to adjustably constrict the opening around the baby (See Figure 1, 3D, 5 & 6) for the purpose of providing safety security and prevent excess infant movement.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make means to constrict the opening around the baby as taught by Bouma with the baby blanket of Gatten in order to enhance infant safety security and prevent excess infant movement.

13. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bailey (U.S. Patent Number 6817033) in view of Bouma (U.S. Patent Number 4597121), Maine (U.S. Patent Number 3996620), Norman (U.S. Patent Publication Number 2003 / 0178452 A1) and Ruefer (U.S. Patent 5722094). Bailey discloses the use of the second mechanism (28 & 30) to adjust the depth of the pouch portion (50) (column 3, lines 55 – 62) (See Figures 2 & 3);

slipping the pouch portion (50) up around the legs of the baby such that the legs of the baby extend into the pouch portion (50) through the opening (See Figure 2);

wrapping the first arm extension portion (80) and second arm extension portion (82) around the baby carrier (See Figure 4).

However, Bailey does not disclose the first mechanism to constrict the opening around the baby.

Bouma teaches the first mechanism (16) to constrict the opening around the baby (See Figure 1, 3D, 5 & 6) for the purpose of providing safety security and prevent excess infant movement.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the first mechanism to constrict the opening around the baby as taught by Bouma with the baby blanket of Bailey in order to enhance infant safety security and prevent excess infant movement.

Moreover, Bailey does not disclose that the first arm extension portion extends between the person.

Maine teaches that the first arm (12c) and second (14c) extension portion extends between the person (See Figure 4) for the purpose of providing reliable security.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art the time the invention was made the first and second arm extension portions extend between the person as taught by Maine with the baby blanket of Bailey in order to enhance reliable snug security.

Additionally, Bailey also does not disclose wearing the baby carrier and at least the portion of the baby carrier.

Norman teaches wearing the baby carrier (20) and at least the portion of the baby carrier (20) (See Figures 2, 3, 8, 10 & 11) for the purpose of providing the user with hand free capabilities.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art the time the invention was made to make wearing the baby carrier and at least the portion of the baby carrier as taught by Norman with the baby blanket of Bailey in order to provide wearers with hand free capabilities.

Additionally, Bailey does not disclose the detachable coupling the first arm extension portion and the second arm portion together at the location on the opposite side of the baby carrier with respect to the person.

Ruefer teaches the detachable coupling the first arm extension portion (16) and the second arm extension portion (24) together at the location on the opposite side of the baby carrier (See Figures 7 & 8) for the purpose of providing security reliability.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the detachable coupling the first arm extension portion and the second arm extension portion together at the location on the opposite side of the baby carrier as taught by Ruefer with the baby blanket of Bailey in order to enhance reliable and durable security.

Finally, Bailey does not disclose the detachable coupling the first arm extension portion and the second extension arm portion together at the location on the opposite side with respect to the person.

Maine teaches the detachable coupling the first arm extension portion (12c) and the second extension arm portion (14c) together at the location on the opposite side with respect to the person (See Figures 4 & 5) for the purpose of improving ergonomic human factors.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the first arm extension portion and the second extension arm portion together at the location on the opposite side with respect to the person as taught by Maine with the baby blanket of Bailey in order to enhance ergonomic human factors.

14. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatten (U.S. Patent Publication Number 2004 / 0019969) in view of Hay et al., (U.S. Patent Number 5950261) and Maine (U.S. Patent Number 3996620). Gatten discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Gatten discloses the pouch portion (110), the first arm extension portion (130) and the second arm extension portion (135), wherein the first arm extension portion (130) has the substantially triangular shape (See Figures 1, 2A, 2B, & 3), wherein the second arm extension portion (135) has the substantially triangular shape (See Figures 1, 2A, 2B & 3).

However, Gatten does not disclose fleece material and wherein the first and second arm extension portions are detachably coupled together by tying the first and second arm extension portions together.

Hay et al., teaches the fleece material (column 3, line 9 & 10) for the purpose of providing additional warmth.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art the time the invention was made to comprise of fleece material as taught by Hay et al., with the baby blanket of Gatten in order to provide additional user warmth.

Furthermore, Gatten and Hay et al., do not disclose the first and second arm extension portions are detachably coupled together by tying the first and second arm extension portions together.

Maine teaches first (12c) and second (14c) arm extension portions (See Figure 1 & 2) are detachable coupled together by tying (See Figures 4 & 5) the first (12c) and second (14c) extension portion together (See Figures 4 & 5) for the purpose of providing manual reliability security to accommodate various size users.


It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art the time the invention was made the first and second arm extension portions are detachably coupled together by tying the first and second arm extension portions together as taught by Maine with the baby blanket of Gatten in order to enhance security to accommodate various size users.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lester L. Vanterpool whose telephone number is 571-272-8028. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:30 - 5:00) EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan Newhouse can be reached on 571-272-4544. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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